

San Marcos Free Press.

I. H. JULIAN, Editor.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Personal and Literary.

--Nobling, who shot the German Emperor, was a regular contributor to several agricultural journals.

--Twenty-one American publishers are represented at the Paris Exhibition by their printed books.

--Thomas Hardy, the novelist, is 38. He was educated as an architect, but concluded to become an architect of fiction.

--Rosa Bonheur begins to show signs of ageing. Her hair is becoming quite gray, though still plentiful; but her frank and charming manner remains.

--A bust of the late Michael Reese, the California millionaire, is to be made and presented to the State University, which he remembered so liberally in his will.

--Lieut.-Gov. Underwood, of Kentucky, places a high estimate upon the power of the press, being the patron of no less than 80 different papers.

--The Marquis of Lorne, Canada's new Governor-General, is a writer under the nom de plume of "Ross Neil," and is reported author of the fairy play "El Finella," now on the Edinburgh stage at the Princess Theater.

--The centenary of the death of the Rev. Augustus Montague Toplady, the author of the "Rock of Ages," and other well known hymns, occurred recently. Commemorative services were held in a number of the English churches.

--At least one graduate is getting in his work. An editorial in the Boston Post contains 25 French names and expressions, to say nothing of references to Dumas, Chesterfield, Lucullus, Talleyrand, Cambaceres, Polyphemus, Aristotle, Xenophon and James T. Field.

--Christina Rossetti, the poet, a woman now in middle age, is an invalid and a recluse. Her sweet nature has not, however, been soured by illness; she is one of the most amiable and charming of women. She has a pleasant face, with prominent eyes and a fine head; and she is extremely industrious, writing constantly.

--A series of woman's rights meetings in Paris terminated on the 11th ult. with a banquet, at which 200 persons ate. Mme. Venturi presided and was flanked by Messrs. Antide, Martin, City Counselor, and Laisant, member of the Chamber of Deputies. The main point of the ten brief speeches was that the admittance of woman to suffrage was the grand panacea for all the evils of society. Mme. Venturi, a delegate from England, was the most successful speaker, and Mlle. Mozzoni, whose expenses to the Congress were paid by the Italian Government, also distinguished herself.

Science and Industry.

--Petroleum has been discovered on the Nueces River, on the border of Uvalde County, Texas.

--A silk manufacturing firm in Lyons, France, presents on its silks a variety of photographed impressions, comprising pictures by the old masters.

--The salmon catch in British Columbia this season exceeds that of any other. They are sold along the banks of Fraser River at one cent each. Indians catch them and Chinamen clean and can them.

--Mr. John Hunter, the English spiritualist, has invented a hive in which only working bees can be bred. By this means he avoids the production of a number of useless drones.

--Dr. J. S. Myer, of Virginia City, Nev., has rediscovered a lost Egyptian art. He tempers copper tools to a more lasting cutting edge than steel tools will hold, similar to that of the copper implements with which the stone by the Pyramids was cut.

--Professor Edison's latest invention is a new ink, which leaves raised work on paper, with which the blind can easily communicate with each other. It is in the form of a powder, which becomes fit for use on dissolution in water.

--A cheap sort of illuminated clock has been adopted in Stuttgart. A magic lantern is arranged so as to throw the face of a watch marking the time on an elevated white surface. The movements of the hands are seen as distinct as on the large clock and the expense is but a minute fraction of the cost of keeping a large illuminated clock tower.

--The Buena Vista Vinicultural Society, after losing about \$200,000 in the manufacture of California wine, has given up the business. The president says that Californians have not yet learned how to make good wine, that the climate and other conditions are not understood with sufficient exactness, and that even a fairly good native wine will not sell as well as a much poorer imported article. Often the society's productions could not be sold at any price. Its champagne venture added \$55,000 to its losses, although the wine had a considerable sale in New York, under fictitious foreign brands.

--Scribner for September gives a paper on a spool of thread, which contains some curious statistics. One company makes 1,200 different kinds, and it takes 10,000 dozen spools to hold each day's product. There are 200 yards to a spool, and a little calculation will show that this means that, simply at these mills, 12,000 miles of thread are made each day, or about 4,100,000 miles a year.

This is more than 1,200 miles of thread an hour, or 20 miles every minute. And, as the combined work of 1,000 employees makes 13,600 miles of thread, even division demonstrates that the work of each is equivalent to 13 1/4 miles of thread daily.

School and Church.

--The salaries of the grammar-school principals in San Francisco have been increased from \$185 a month to \$200.

--The revised New Testament is nearly all printed. It will be presented to the Convocation of Canterbury next year.

--The Protestant Episcopal Committee of Foreign Missions wants \$40,000 at once to meet pressing liabilities, and makes an urgent call for it.

--Princeton Theological Seminary owns over \$1,000,000 worth of property. About a quarter of this is in real estate, the rest of it in bonds and mortgages.

--The new education law of Holland, adopted by the Chambers and sanctioned by the King, excludes the Bible and religious teaching from the primary schools.

--"Six days of the week he's invisible, and on the seventh he's incomprehensible," was the account which a dissatisfied old lady gave of her pastor and his ministrations.

--Ida M. Pierce, daughter of Rev. J. N. Pierce, of the St. Louis Conference, has been elected to the chair of English literature in Simpson Centenary College.

--There is now only one Methodist body in Ireland, the Wesleyans and the Primitives having united at the meetings of their Conferences recently held in Dublin. The United Church has nearly 200 ministers.

--Portugal has but one university, Coimbra, founded in 1290. It has 70 instructors and 1,100 students. There are 2,450 elementary schools, and parents whose children can not read and write by 15 lose their political rights.

--The New Orleans school directors resolved that all female teachers who marry during vacation shall lose their places; their theory is that married women have a supporter, and should give way to their sisters who have none.

--The Chautauqua Sunday School Assembly, which has just closed, was in every respect the most successful yet held. As many as 8,000 persons were there at one time on several occasions during the Assembly, and the throng was not at any time less than 6,000. The managers devised liberal things, securing the best and most popular speakers, and paying them well for their services. The whole expense for teachers, speakers, preachers, lecturers, and music was over \$7,000.

Haps and Mishaps.

--The scratch of a pin, which grew into an inflamed ulcer and threw her into spasms, caused the death of Dr. John Stone's wife at Linton, Ga.

--James Rogers, of Ashtabula, O., died from the effects of glanders, communicated by a horse. His body was in an almost putrid condition when death occurred.

--Samuel B. Mix, a farmer living near Trinity Mills, Dallas County, Texas, was instantly killed by lightning, plowing. The lightning struck him on the head, passed over his body and tearing his boots off.

--At Tiffin, O., a 12-year-old daughter of Andrew Robinson was playfully tossing her infant brother in and out of a second-story window, when she lost her grip on the little fellow and he fell to the ground, a distance of 18 feet, fracturing his skull.

--At Algonza, Mich., Jerome Clark and his daughter, 16 years of age, were struck by lightning while sitting in their house. The young lady was instantly killed, and Mr. Clark so stunned by the shock that he will probably not recover.

--Wm. Braque, a farmer living at Danby, Mich., was getting ready to thresh, the other morning, and going out after breakfast looked up as he was passing under an apple tree and remarked to his wife that he thought it would not rain much, when a bolt of lightning struck him on the forehead, killing him instantly.

--The ice-cream sold by itinerant vendors in London streets has been found in several cases to be poisonous. A physician of that city has reported two cases under his observation. Both were of children seized with alarming symptoms of poisoning by some metallic irritant which nearly proved fatal. They had each shortly before partaken of colored ice-cream from a street hand-cart. The poison was in the coloring matter.

Foreign Notes.

--Pope Leo XIII. is said to be an enthusiastic amateur in music and to be able to sing mass with fine effect.

--The Grand Duke Nicholas, of Russia, is reported to have fallen into disgrace because of official peculation.

--The captive balloon, which is one of the attractions of the Paris Exposition, is said to have cost nearly \$150,000, of the proprietors pay a ground rent of \$3,000. The price for a 20 minutes' ascension is \$4 a head. Miss Sarah Bernhardt, the famous actress, makes three ascensions daily. It is reported that, after the close of the Exposition, the balloon is to be brought to this country.

--An old fellow named Barney Moran, who died recently in the Work-house at Ballinac, in Ireland, revealed to the chaplain before his death that he was the executioner of Robert Emmet. He was a young soldier at the time, and performed the revolting office for a reward.

None but a few officers knew who he was, and the secret was so well kept that it has commonly been supposed to be past finding out.

--The Jewish World, published in London, announces that an agent has been sent to Palestine "charged with the duty of purchasing land and otherwise commencing the realization of the great humanitarian scheme of the 'Sir Moses Montefiore fund,' the object of which is to better the condition of the Jews of Palestine by the introduction among them of agricultural and industrial pursuits, under such control as shall make their improvement permanent and lasting."

--Five hundred and sixty-three persons, it is stated, have been arrested in Germany since the 2d of June, the date of Nobling's crime, for insults on the Emperor William. Forty-two of these have been acquitted, and the rest, including 31 women, sentenced to terms of imprisonment amounting altogether to 811 years. Berlin, Breslau, Bonn, Bochum, Hall, Lobsaun, and Mannheim produced most of the prosecutions, and five of the accused committed suicide before trial.

Odds and Ends in Rhyme.

There was a young man of Quawaka,
Got married, and went to Chicago
With his darling bride to spend the honey-moon;

And this was their true love's course:
In the morning she got a divorce,
And married another man in the afternoon.
--Burlington Hawkeye.

"That man," said Kate, "to love for me
Is sure a very slave,
E'en tho' 'tis full a year since I
To him the mitten gave."
"Oh! then he's not a slave," said Prue,
As o'er her face she flitted
A roguish smile, "you just confessed
That he was manumitted."
--Yonkers Gazette.

Born on Monday.

Wart on the nose;
Born on Tuesday,
Corns on the toes;
Born on Wednesday,
Hair will be red;
Born on Thursday,
Weak in the head;
Born on Friday,
Freckly skin;
Born on Saturday,
Mole on the chin;
Born on Sunday,
Born to sin.
--St. Louis Journal.

FAST HORSE.

Smart colt? You may bet yer pile, young man,
That beast'll travel her mile, young man,
At quicker speed
Than you ever seed,
As if her 'ints was all lie, young man.
Why, t'other day, I'll be shot, young man,
But she stood on t'ere spot, young man,
When a lightning bolt
Ran arter the colt,
And she led it all round the lot, young man.
--Boston Post.

THE LAWYER IN THE EDITOR'S BED.

I slept in an editor's bed last night,
When no other chance to be nigh;
And I thought, as I tumbled the editor's bed,
How easy the editors lie.
--Exchange.

If the lawyer slept in the editor's bed,
When no other lawyer chance to be nigh,
And thought, as above, he has naively said,
How easily editors lie.

He must then admit, as he lay on that bed
And slept to his heart's desire,
Whatever he may say of the editor's bed,
'Twas the lawyer himself was the liar.
--New Orleans Bulletin.

THE DANCER.

He met her at the picnic,
He melted at her glance,
And he murmured sadly in her ears,
"Dear heart, I can not dance."

Now the green shadowed woods resound
With airs of sunny France;
In many figures o'er the ground
The youths and maidens prance.

But who is he, far down the glen,
Who eyes this scene aghast?
Who shuns the eyes of maids and men?
'Tis he who can not dance.

Not dance? Yet see! behold him there,
Observe him leap and prance;
High climbs he to the top of the air,
A wild, weird, fiendish dance.

He leaps, he kicks, he slaps his legs;
Ah, ha! His wide, wide pants
Are full of fifteen thousand times
Ten thousand thousand ants.
--Burlington Hawkeye.

A Guileless Giantess.

The verbal call to the crowd to come
And behold the wonders of the giantess
Is issued by a large, well developed
young woman, thoroughly encased in
tights and a close fitting red jacket.
Her limb development is superb and
bears close inspection. She stands the
sole attraction in the glare before a
gazing crowd, with a smile half defiant
on her face. We enter the den of the
giantess. Front seats, 5 cents; rear, 2.
The giantess is seated in a niched raised
platform. She smiles benignly as we
enter. We are the only audience present.
We sit down. The giantess still
smilingly regards us. We sheepishly
regard the giantess. It is rather embarrassing
thus to be left alone with such a
big woman, who does not speak English.
Soon the giantess commences to
unfold her vast proportions. In other
words, she stands up. She is indeed
lofty. Her dress descends to the platform
in a trailing robe. We regard it
suspiciously. We think of very thick-soled
boots for increasing the apparent
stature of many giantesses. Meantime
the giantess is making her set speech.
She tells us where she was born, how
old she is and how far her head has got
away from the earth up to the present
time. Then she curtsies and sits down.
Still we suspiciously look at that long
robe. The giantess divines our thoughts.
She is prepared for it. She outflanks
suspicion. She commences, "upon my
soul," to pull up her dress. She exposes
her feet, her ankles. She pursues the
subject further. She shows foot
after foot of a thick, white cotton stocking
and proves that hers are not false
legs. A yard of giant limb is disclosed.
The seance closes at the knees. For a
single performer, she is not badly supported.
We leave satisfied. --*Francis Mulford's Paris Letter to San Francisco Bulletin.*

Curious Chinese Vehicles.

The utmost that the country can boast of in the way of horsed vehicles in the "ma-chay," or two-wheeled cart, the appearance, comfort and speed of which may be imagined if the reader can picture to himself one of the old Bath sedans with the bottom cut short off, and then mounted upon a springless clumsy frame rolling upon two as clumsy wheels, and drawn by a sorry worn-out mule or pony, over roads to which the application of the name "corduroy" would be a euphemism. Taking stoppages, owing to the condition of road, hunger and thirst of driver and beast, accidents, etc., into consideration, the speed at which such a machine would cover the ground might be handsomely estimated at from five to six miles the hour. These vehicles are mostly used in North China, and the gentlemen as well as the ladies who have the honor of representing European States at Peking and thereabout might, if questioned, be able to give some very interesting, not to say melancholy, reminiscences of their experiences of travel after this sort. To Chinese, however, this sedan-cart, or cart-sedan, whichever it may be termed, is quite a stylish turn-out, mandarins of the highest grade indulging in their use, and they may constantly be seen curtained and lined with the finest cloth or silk, and cushioned with the softest and costliest of furs. Their one great lack is springs, and, curiously enough, the invention of John Chinaman, practical as it is in most cases, has not compassed the idea of saving his skin and bones to this extent, whether as regards the body or the shafts of the conveyance. Another wheeled vehicle, equally characteristic but atrocious with the cart-sedan, is the wheeled barrow, or "chotaze." Not anything like the machine with the terminal wheel and box-like capacity which we are accustomed to associate with the name; but a much more ingenious conveyance, in which the passengers sit nearly back to back, with their faces outward, and legs pendant, luggage, etc., cleverly packed alongside of them. Could an Irish car be reduced to miniature size, its two wheels substituted, running under and between the two seats, and could a Chinaman be placed between the shafts, face toward the car, and driving it backward, the metamorphosis would come nearer representing the Chinese wheelbarrow than any thing we can describe. These barrows carry both passengers and goods and are constructed of two sizes--the smaller driven by one man, and having a carrying capacity of four passengers or three to four hundred weight; and the larger, requiring a tracker in front, in the shape of a man or donkey, and equal to the conveyance of double that quantity. Often, in long journeys, the passengers for a consideration get the driver to fit over their heads a hood of oiled paper, stretched upon bamboo frame-work, to keep out the rain and dust; and at times the driver eases his load by planting a stanchion on either side, and making sail, when the wind proves conducive, thus giving practical exemplification of the truth of the lines--

On the barren plains
Of Soricana, where Chinese drive
With sails and wind their way canny wagons
light.

A striking peculiarity of this class of conveyance is the excruciating shriek which they invariably give vent to when on the move, owing to the fact that both axle and box of the wheel are made of wood. Chinese passengers appreciate this music, but it was found so torturing in the foreign settlement of Shanghai, that the Municipal Council was compelled to pass a statute forbidding the noise, on pain of forfeiture of the barrow; and it was always amusing to observe how careful John Chinaman was to stop his barrow on entering municipal limits, tilt it on end, and grease up previously to venturing upon foreign political territory. Wheelbarrows like their congeners, the carts, are confined to certain tracts of the country only, and constitute, as a rule, the vehicle of the midland provinces. In Shanghai itself they have been obliged to give way to a great extent to the "Ginrickshaw," or man-cart, a Japanese introduction of recent date, which is a light two-wheeled spring gig, drawn with ease at a rapid trot by one man, and capable of holding two passengers. The facility of jumping in and out of this conveyance, and the speed at which it may be bowled along the excellent roads of Shanghai, combine to recommend its use to the shrewd Chinaman, slow although he be as a rule to take up with new-fangled and foreign notions. The fares paid to the wheelbarrow drivers are wonderfully low. Their remuneration depends much upon the level and condition of road traversed, as well as upon the load carried; but a fair idea of its reasonable character may be gathered from the fact that one passenger can be conveyed from one end of the Shanghai settlements to the other, a distance of about two miles, for the ridiculous sum of 25 cash, equal to about a penny of our money. --*Cornhill Magazine.*

--We learn, on the authority of the London Medical Examiner, that it is proposed to form a "School of Beauty" in England, in which the members, male and female, pledge themselves to do all they can to make themselves comely by natural means. Prizes will be given to those ladies who can move with ease and grace, and so afford evidence of the free use of their limbs, while it will be a leading rule of the school that, though stays may be used as a means of support, they shall not be deemed essential as an accessory to beauty. In other words, a natural waist and a well-curved back, with a perfectly posed head, will be at a premium.

A TASTE OF PURGATORY.

The Terrible Heat in the Nevada Mines--Heroic Treatment of Comatose Miners.

[From the Virginia (Nev.) Enterprise.]
Those who have not recently explored the lower levels of the leading mines of the Comstock can have but a very faint conception of the heat prevailing therein at the present time. The heat is terrible even in the winter; it is like the breath of a furnace, and in most places where men are obliged to work it is deficient in oxygen, that life-supporting ingredient having been burnt out by the many candles used, and in various ways absorbed and exhausted. It can be felt piercing through the little clothing worn, drying the saliva in the mouth, and almost shriveling the eyeballs. A temperature of 120 to 130 degrees is so much above blood heat that the process of cooking begins in the human frame. But for the floods of perspiration covering the body the flesh would really be cooked to a certain extent. A famous English philosopher has given an account of his going into an oven hot enough to cook a beefsteak, and remaining there till one lying near him was actually cooked. Had it been the dead instead of the living body of the philosopher that accompanied the beefsteak it would undoubtedly have been "done to a turn." All that saved the experimenter, as he himself says, was the fact that he was constantly in a state of profuse perspiration. A temperature above the natural heat of the body undoubtedly attacks it and causes the flesh to undergo the first stages of cooking. This happens to a miner the moment perspiration ceases to flow from the pores of the skin. The stomach is first affected, then the brain. It is probably through disorder of and sickness at the stomach that perspiration ceases to flow. As soon as perspiration ceases to flow the body begins to cook, and first of all, apparently, the brain, as the man at once becomes delirious--as wildly insane as any patient in a lunatic asylum. Cases of this kind occur much more frequently than is supposed or generally known. Of late they have been very frequent in the California and Consolidated Virginia Mines. When a miner suddenly begins to rave and talk incoherently his companions "doctor" him. It is rough treatment they give him, but it is found to be very effective. The man affected is seized and carried to the coolest place in the vicinity, when he is bound hand and foot and put through a process of rubbing. The friction is applied to the stomach, which is found to be the seat of the trouble, and in which knots nearly the size of a man's fist are found to have formed. These must be rubbed out, and as soon as they disappear perspiration again starts and the man regains his senses. The rubbing is sometimes done with a piece of gunny sack, but, as this is liable to cause useless abrasion of the skin, a pick-handle is preferred. To be rubbed down with a pick-handle in the hands of a muscular miner is not such real torment as any man in his senses would be likely to greatly desire, nor does the miner, even in his delirium, desire it, therefore he is tied in such a way that he can not resist. The miners say that they can bring a man out all right by their method of treatment in less than half the time that it would be done by the physicians. A day or two since at the Consolidated Virginia the men took one of their companions, who became deranged from the heat, tied him at the end of a rope, and lowered him about 100 feet to a place where he could be conveniently "doctored," then went at him with their pick handles and soon brought him out all right. Day before yesterday a thing happened in the Consolidated Virginia shaft, which borders on the miraculous. A man was standing on a plank that was placed across the shaft when he suddenly fainted and fell upon his back, lying as securely along the plank as though he had been placed there with the greatest care. It was quite wonderful, too, that he remained just as he fell sufficiently long to allow his fellow-workmen to reach him and withdraw him from his perilous position. Not once in ten thousand times would a man's life be saved when fainting in such a position. The shaft mentioned is so fearfully hot that beside it purgatory would be reckoned a cooling-off station. Although the men who work there are a species of human salamander--like the philosopher who got into the oven along with the beefsteak--still they can not work but about 10 minutes at a time. They then fall back and let others come to the front. In this way of working it is asserted that there are places in the bonanza mines where it is now costing \$16 per day to do the work of one man. The men could do nothing at all but for the liberal supply of ice and ice-water allowed them. They swallow ice-water by the gallon, and frequently pour the same over each other. In these hot places they use about 95 pounds of ice per day to the man. Without ice none of our leading mines could be worked. Men can not live in the lower levels without an ample supply of ice-water, and even with it they are, as we have seen, almost cooked alive and frequently rendered delirious--would be, indeed, were they not promptly taken in hand and "doctored."

--The American Baptists have a theological seminary in India. It is located at Ramapatnam, and is called the Brownson Theological Seminary. The native assistants of the Telooogoo Mission receive their training in it. The first class, consisting of seventeen men and four women, was graduated this year. The women are wives of some of the graduates, and have made as good a record in their studies as any of the men. All the graduates are said to have passed good examinations.